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## COINS AND MEDALS OF ROYAL PRETENDERS.

An interesting article entitled "Royal Pretenders", in "The Nation" for the ninth of the current month, has attracted our attention both from its sprightliness and general accuracy, and from the reference made, at the close of its first paragraph, to one at least of the many numismatic connections of the subject. We spoke of the "general accuracy" of the writer, for we think that in the multitude of facts which he imparts or implies there is one which is no fact. Among the kings unkinged and heirs unheired or unheritaged whom he sets down at an imaginary table, he cites "King Otho of Greece". But our recollection testifies that this Bavarian *Basileus*, so unacceptable to the Hellenes, could not now be present at any such gathering except as a disembodied spirit; and, according to the "Almanach de Gotha", the oracle on such questions, he died July 26, 1867. The particular passage in "The Nation" to which we referred as having a numismatic bearing is the following: "there is something not unpicturesque in the thought of the Cardinal of York, the last of the Stuart line, striking that medal, one of the rarities of collections, to put on record his claim to the throne of England, as Henry IX., when he was supported all the while by the charity of the Elector of Hanover, better known as George III."

The medal in question is indeed one of much interest. We had the fortune to secure a fine specimen of it, in copper, at the Mickley sale; and in the Oliver sale there was another disposed of at a very low price. The legends are, obverse with bust, HEN · IX · MAG · BRIT · FR · ET · HIB · REX · FID · DEF · CARD · EP · TVSC, that is, Henry IX., King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Cardinal Bishop of Tusculum (Frascati); and, reverse with figure of Religion, lion, crown, cardinal's hat, St. Peter's Church and bridge over the Tiber, NON · DESIDERIIS · HOMINVM · SED · VOLVNTATE · DEI, *i. e.*, Not by the Wishes of Men but by the Will of God. Exergue, AN · MDCCLXXXVIII. It is a work of Gioachimo Hamerani, the last of that celebrated family of die-cutters who flourished in Rome for fully a century and a half; and it may be hoped that should it ever again be offered in public it will bring a higher price than \$1.25, the sum for which it was sacrificed at Mr. Oliver's auction.

We have two other copper medals of these wrong-headed exiles.

The first one, struck in honor of the two sons of the "old Pretender", is of size 26, and bears, on the obverse, a youthful bust of Charles Edward, afterwards called the "young Pretender", or the "young Chevalier", with a five-pointed star in front of it, and the legend MICAT · INTER · OMNES, He shines among all. The reverse bears a still more juvenile bust of Henry Benedict, afterwards the Cardinal of York, with the legend ALTER · AB · ILLO, Another from that one. The second of these medals, size 20, represents on the obverse the young Pretender as *soi-disant* king, since his father's death; the legend being CAROLVS · III · N · 1720 · M · B · F · ETH · REX · 1766, Charles III., born 1720, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, 1766. The reverse presents us with a portrait of his wife, the princess of Stolberg, afterwards beloved by the great tragic poet Alfieri. The legend is LVDOVICA · M · B · F · ETH · REGINA · 1772, Louisa, Queen of Great Britain, France and Ireland, 1772. The date is that of her marriage, and consequent acquisition of a shadowy crown.

But the most remarkable numismatic specimen relating to this ex-regal family which has ever come under our observation is a crown of the old Pretender, son of James II. We saw it a few months ago, in the possession of Mr. Cogan, from whom it was purchased by Mr. Moore of Trenton Falls. The following is a description: *Obv.* Bust of James Stuart, laureate, hair long, in armor, and with a mantle tied at the shoulder. *Leg.* IACOBVS VIII · DEI · GRATIA. *Rev.* Arms in a plain square shield crowned, viz., 1 and 4, Scotland; 2, France and England, quarterly; 3, Ireland. *Leg.* SCOT · ANGL · FRAN · ET HIB · REX · 1716. This was a pattern for a crown-piece, intended for circulation in Scotland, had the invasion of 1716 been successful. The dies were engraved by Roettier, and remained in the possession of his family till they were purchased by Mr. Matthew Young, who struck a few pieces for the gratification of collectors. No contemporaneous specimens are known\*.

The most valuable coin of a pretender which we happen to possess is the Five Franc Piece of Henry V., Duke of Bordeaux, or Count of Chambord, and lineal heir of the crown of France. He is, though not very old in years, his half-century being not quite numbered, or by any means the senior among the throng of crown-claimers over whom the writer in "The Nation" concedes him the pre-eminence, nevertheless fully entitled to that rank, both on account of the height from which he has fallen, and the antiquity of the idea on which his pretensions are based. The Obverse of the Five Franc Piece, which owes its existence to the ardor of some hopeful partisan of legitimacy immediately after Louis Philippe's accession, presents us with a youthful portrait in uniform, ribbon and two decorations, one of which is the Golden Fleece, the other the "Saint Esprit". At the lower right corner of the latter are the letters G C, of very small size. The legend is HENRI V ROI DE FRANCE. The Reverse is the ordinary one of the Five Franc Pieces of the Restoration, the date being 1831; to the right, and the left, of which is a fleur-de-lis as a mint-mark. On the edge DOMINE SALVUM FAC REGEM and a crown of three plumes. We have also a One Franc Piece of the same date, differing from the larger coin only in the absence of the letters G C, and in having its edge milled. Of these prospective or pretension pieces, as we may call them, the former is RR; the latter, R.†

#### SAMUEL CURWEN AS A NUMISMATIST.

"The Journal and Letters of Samuel Curwen", a loyalist refugee in England during our War of Independence, contain two or three noteworthy numismatic observations, which we extract for the benefit of those who may not be familiar with that favorite work, of which the fourth edition was published in 1864. Our attention was drawn to the first of these remarks of Curwen by an inquiry in "Notes and Queries" for Aug. 28, whether the medal mentioned by him be anywhere still in existence. Under the date of April 20, 1778, the author of the Journal records: "A medal has lately been struck at Paris, by order of Monsieur Voltaire, in honor of General Washington; on one side is the bust of the General, with this inscription: 'G. Washington, Esq., Commander of the Continental Army in America.'" The reverse is decorated with the emblems of war, and the following: "Washington reunit par une rare assemblage les talents du Guerrier et les vertus du Sage".

The description in Snowden's "Medals of Washington" is more accurate. It is as follows: "*Obverse.* Head of Washington, facing to the right. *Legend.* G. WASHINGTON ESQ GENERAL OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY IN AMERICA. *Reverse.* Martial emblems, surrounded by diverging rays. *Legend.* WASHIN. REUNIT PAR UN RARE ASSEMBLAGE—LES TALENS DU GUERRIER & LES VERTUS DU SAGE. *Size* 24. Designed by Voltaire, and struck in Paris in 1778".

\* Catalogue of Antiquities, &c., in the Museum of the Archaeological Institute, Edinburgh, 1859, p. 105.

† J. and A. Erbstein. Schulthess-Rechbergsche Sammlung. Dresden, 1868, p. 83.

The querist who desires to learn whether any impressions of this medal are still extant could find not a small number of them in America. It is not a fine medal, the head bearing no resemblance to Washington, but being, as is believed, we know not on what authority, a likeness of Jeremy Bentham, of which Voltaire thought proper to make use in the absence of any portrait of Washington himself. The "E" of the obverse, is Voltaire's way of writing "Esq.," and the lines of the reverse may be presumed to have originated with the author of the "Henriade", in which poem they are perhaps to be found.

This medal commands good prices at our public sales, for example, McCoy, \$17; Seavey, \$20; Mickley, \$8, and is of course indispensable to the completeness of the department of "Washingtons" in a cabinet, while it is one of the most interesting of that class of pieces. Its historical value is enhanced by the fact that Voltaire died in the month following its issue, namely on the 30th of May, 1778. Will not one of our numerous and active contributors examine the biographies of the great writer, in order to obtain some information in regard to this "Voltaire Washington"?

The second numismatic entry made by Curwen in his diary belongs to the year 1780. Writing to Arthur Savage, Esq., he says in regard to a letter received from that gentleman: "I thank you for the kind information it contained respecting the Roman denarii and English coins; a few of which, if not above the reach of my purse, I would gladly procure". On the third day thereafter we find him writing: "Oct. 16. Visited Mr. A. Savage, and abode there till late in the evening". The consequence of this abiding appears in the following: "Oct. 17. To Oxford-street, to examine some silver Roman denarii and Greek and English coins—for which they require far more than I think them worth—a Cromwell half-crown at thirty shillings! But am not medal mad. Oct. 18. Received an order from the treasury for my quarterly allowance. Bought ten silver Roman denarii".

The last citation which we shall offer relates to a well-known American type. Its date is May 15, 1784. "Mr. Bartlett presented me with a medal struck in Philadelphia: in a round compartment stands, U. S..... 5..... 1783"; round, "*Libertas et Justitia*"; on the other side, in the centre, an eye surrounded by a glory; the whole encompassed by *thirteen stars*,—with the legend, "*Nova Constellatio*". Will another of our numerous and active corps of correspondents throw some light on the "5" of the above, which we do not recognize? It does not appear, at least, on the copper pieces; and this leads us to believe that the "medal", as Mr. Curwen distinctly calls it, was a "Nova Constellatio Half-Dollar", like No. 2339 in the Mickley sale, amply described in the catalogue, and purchased by Mr. Appleton for \$32.50. The "5" in that case, is a misprint for "500", meaning that number of mills.

## ROMAN FAMILY COINS.

CONTINUED FROM VOL. III., NO. 3.

The charge of an unnecessary and unpopular degree of *learning* has been recently reiterated in print against this JOURNAL. In resuming, therefore, after a long interval, a subject which certainly ranks with justice among the *learned* ones, we intend, in deference to the opinion of objectors who entertain that view, to translate, literally, in *Italics*, every Latin word or abbreviation which may present itself; while, in the way of historical reference, we shall confine ourselves to Liddell's History of Rome, an excellent book indeed, but as accessible and as easy to read as any History of the United States. Farther than this we cannot stoop; and, in deviating to such an extent from our previous course, we are in fact likely to give offence to more judicious readers, who rightly consider—like the distinguished personage who once told a teasingly explanatory lawyer that there were "some things which a Chief-Justice of the United States might be expected to comprehend"—who rightly consider, we say, that there are some few things which a professed numismatist may probably know.

Confining ourselves, as before, to those Roman families of whose coins we ourselves possess specimens, and our desire being to show, by examples, how much interest attaches to the whole class, we proceed to take up

**AQUILLIA.** *Obv.* III VIR VIRTVS. *Triumvir*, that is, "Triumvir Monetalis", or one of the Three Commissioners of the Mint, whose office, established, as Niebuhr thinks, B. C. 269, when the Romans first began to coin silver, was one of great importance—though its term was but a single year—and preceded every other in the career of public honors; *Valor*. Head of Valor as a youth, in helmet with two plumes, to right.

*Rev.* M' AQVIL M' F M' N Exergue SICIL. This legend is "Manius Aquillius, Manii Filius, Manii Nepos", the first letter which, according to custom, we represent by M', being on the coin a peculiar character indicating Manius, *i. e.*, literally one borne *māne*, in the morning. The meaning therefore is *Manius Aquillius, son of Manius, grandson of Manius*. The word "Sicilia" affords the explanation of the device, viz., a kneeling woman supporting herself with her right hand, and raised from the ground by a soldier in a tunic, with a shield on his left arm.

The triumvir of the mint celebrates here a great action of his grandfather, who, when colleague of Marius in the latter's fifth consulship, B. C. 101, tranquillized the province of Sicily after a servile war, and obtained in consequence the honor of an ovation. This Sicilian servile war which Aquillius extinguished was the second. The first occurred B. C. 133, and was suppressed by L. Calpurnius Piso, called "Frugi", or "the man of honor", and P. Rupilius (Liddell, 500) during the next two years. The leaders of the slaves in the second war were Salvius and a Cilician named Athenio. Salvius assumed the name of Tryphon; on his death, Athenio succeeded him. In a single combat, Athenio was killed and Aquillius severely wounded (Lidd. 562-4). When Aquillius was tried for rapacity, his advocate Antonius, the celebrated orator, grandfather of Mark Antony, displayed to the public view the scars on the old soldier's breast. The spectators, including Marius, wept, and Aquillius was acquitted (id. 572). At the beginning of the Mithridatic war, B. C. 88, Aquillius was delivered up to Mithridates by the Lesbians, paraded about on an ass, and then put to death by having molten gold poured down his throat (id. 596).

Now, in our way of thinking, such knowledge is of value to those who possess this denarius, or may in time possess it. If it be "learning", it is of the kind termed "cheap" learning, even as the piece itself is cheap, being common and worth from half to three-fourths of a dollar. Yet we venture to assert that in point of fact such a coin, with its historic associations, so easily traced out, is more interesting to an intelligent person than any one in the whole Mint Series of the United States; and we believe moreover that dealers will find it to their advantage to encourage this well-founded persuasion and contribute to its acceptance in the public mind, rather than by stupid complaints about excess of "learning" to lower their own trade and endeavor to drive from the market a vast proportion of their own merchandise.

**AURELIA.** *Obv.* Head of Rome, helmeted, to right; behind it X. This latter character, sometimes made with a third stroke, so as to form six arms, is the ordinary sign of the denarius, or silver penny, as the equivalent of ten *asses*.

*Rev.* AV (Monogram) RVF (Monogram), Exergue ROMA. Jupiter in a quadriga at speed to the right, holding in his right a thunderbolt, and in his left a sceptre and the reins.

The number of Monograms which the denarii present to our notice is remarkable, Riccio giving a table of ninety-one fac-similes of these ingenious combinations by which the ancient die-cutters diminished their labors. They lead to some confusion on the part of moderns. Thus the blended AV on other coins was mistaken by Vaillant for AN, and he accordingly assigned them to the Gens Annia, or Annian House, but the consideration of this very piece, on which that monogram is united with the one which denotes "Rufus", characterizing a family of the Gens Aurelia, or Aurelian House, caused the numismatists to unite in giving to "Aurelia" all denarii bearing the disputed monogram, as well as the *Aurelius Rufus* under our notice. The coin of this latter is not known. The simplicity of the style indicates that it was struck about the time of the second Punic War.

**BARBATIA.** *Obv.* M · ANT · IMP · AVG · (Monogram) III · VIR · R · P · C · M · BARBATI Q · P. This legend, unabbreviated, is "Marcus Antonius Imperator Augur Triumvir Reipublicae Constituendae Marcus Barbatius Quaestor Provincialis", and may be translated *Mark Antony, Commander-in-chief, Augur, Triumvir for reconstructing the republic, Marcus Barbatius, Provincial Quaestor*. Head of Mark Antony, undraped, to the right.

*Rev.* CAESAR · IMP · PONT · III · VIR · R · P · C. "Caesar Imperator Pontifex Triumvir Reipublicae Constituendae" equivalent to *Caesar, Commander-in-chief, High-priest, Triumvir for reconstructing the republic*. Head of Octavian, slightly whiskered, undraped to the right.

This common but very interesting coin presents us with authentic portraits of the two triumvirs who, with Lepidus, formed the celebrated league after Caesar's assassination. We call the young grand-nephew of the murdered dictator by the name which properly belongs to him till sometime after Antony's overthrow at Actium, B. C. 31. Not till B. C. 27 was he entitled "Augustus". His full name, previously, as son of C. Octavius Rufus, and testamentary adoptive son of the great Julius, was Caius Julius Caesar Octavianus, the last word indicating his transference from the Gens Octavia to the Gens Julia. This denarius was struck, as its lettering indicates, by a certain M. Barbatius

Philippus, provincial Quaestor or treasurer of Antony. It is worthy of observation, as a key to the system of classification pursued by writers on Roman Family Coins, that this one may be placed with almost equal propriety under either of the heads ANTONIA, BARBATIA, and JULIA, and is in fact described under all of them—a method of proceeding which of course swells the dimensions of such works, though unavoidably, while it is nevertheless manifest that the moneyer Barbatius has the best right to attach it to his Gens or House.

CAECILIA. (1) *Obv.* ROMA Head of Rome, to the right, helmeted, the top of the helmet resembling the head of a serpent; in front, \*

*Rev.* C. METELLVS, *Caius Metellus*, Male Figure crowned by a flying Victory, in biga to the left, drawn by elephants, one of which has round its neck a bell.

Struck by C. Caecilius Metellus, fourth son of Quintus Caecilius Metellus Macedonicus. The elephants refer to the victory gained at Panormus, now Palermo, in Sicily, by Caius' great-grandfather Lucius Caecilius Metellus over Hasdrubal, B. C. 250, in which 120 elephants were taken, and were afterwards conveyed to Rome on rafts, to adorn the triumph of Metellus (Liddell, 275).

(2.) *Obv.* ROMA Head of Rome, helmeted, to right, before it, X.

*Rev.* M·METELLVS·Q·F·, equivalent to "Marcus Metellus, Quinti Filius" that is, *Son of Quintus*. This legend encompasses a Macedonian, or circular shield, in the middle of which is an elephant's head; the whole surrounded by a laurel wreath.

Struck by M. Caecilius Metellus, third son of Q. C. Metellus Macedonicus who enjoyed a triumph for conquering Andronicus or Pseudo-Philippus, B. C. 148 (Lidd. 477).

The two last-named coins are common and cheap. Have we proved in regard to them, as well as the others, that their investigation rewards the labor, and requires no wonderful amount of learning?

#### EXCERPTA.

Under the title *ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE MONTH*, we find in the "Illustrated London News", for Sept. 4, 1869, the following interesting information:—

"The numismatic event of the month has been the sale of the gold piece said to have been presented by King Charles I. to Bishop Juxon, who was in attendance on the scaffold at Whitehall. The piece was from the cabinet of the late Mr. Thomas Brown, and is thus described in the catalogue:—'674—Five-broad piece, an extraordinary and priceless pattern, by Briot, *m. m.* rose, CAROLUS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN ET. HIBERNIAE. REX., bare-headed bust of the King to left, with long flowing hair, and Vandyke lace collar; *rev.* same *m. m.*, FLORENT. CONCORDIA. REGNA., arms in high relief, on a garnished shield, crowned; at the sides, C. R. crowned, edge engrailed, highly preserved, and unique.' It was bought by Mr. Webster, of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, for £345. It weighs 1 oz. 10 dwt. 15 gr. No doubt can arise as to its being given by the King, both from its appearance as a pattern, having a mint mark (a rose), probably for a £5 or £6 piece, submitted by the engraver to his Majesty for approval; as well as from its being conveyed down in a direct line from the Bishop to its possessor in 1835, when by purchase it passed to Colonel Drummond, who possessed a brilliant collection of Roman and English coins. The above gold piece is the work of Rawlins, who also engraved the rare Oxford crown piece. It appears that all authorities agree that the George (the jewel of the Order of the Garter) was presented to the Bishop by the King but a few minutes prior to his decapitation. The late Sir George Chetwynd did not dispute this fact, but maintained that the medal had been presented by the King previously. We received this information from Mr. Till, the well-known numismatist, in 1835, when the piece was engraved in the *Mirror*, No. 749.

"The late Mr. J. H. Burns' collections have been dispersed. Among the coins were a New England halfpenny, (1694) poor, brought £10. 5s., and eight American halfpennies, 1776, £8."

The gold piece of Charles I., mentioned above, is the subject of the extract subjoined, from Humphreys' "Coinage of the British Empire", 1861, pp. 128-9:—

"Charles, with a natural love of art, took great interest in the devices of his coinage; and when Briot returned to France, he advanced Thomas Rawlins, who had been associated with the French

engraver in preparing his dies, to the office of his chief engraver. On the breaking out of the war in 1642, Rawlins followed the fortunes of the King, and engraved in the camp many of the hastily executed dies for 'striking the money of necessity', and probably several of the 'siege pieces'. He is known to have engraved the rude Kinton medal, and also several of very good workmanship, among which may be named the Oxford crown of 1645. The die of the celebrated pattern for a £5 gold piece was probably engraved by Rawlins, among other work executed at Oxford. The King preserved the pattern piece from this die to the last; and when on the scaffold, wishing to present some small memorial as a memento to Bishop Juxon, who had administered to him the last offices of religion, he found that his earthly possessions had dwindled to that single gold piece, and he gave it as the only gift he had left to bestow. The coining of that piece had probably been one of his last acts of sovereignty, and he had possibly clung to it on that account, as vividly recalling his last days of power. The piece was preserved as an heirloom in the bishop's family for several generations, and at last found its way into the celebrated collection of Mr. Cuff. At the sale of that cabinet the possession of this historical monument was keenly contested, the biddings rapidly rising till a nod from an agent of the British Museum brought the piece up to 250 guineas. It was not destined, however, to go to the national collection; for that sum reached the extreme limit to which the agent for the museum was authorized to go. And the present possessor, bidding at once ten guineas more, secured the coveted prize without further opposition, at the price of 260 guineas. The account of the sale in the newspapers, accompanied as it was with a graphic description of the different bidders for the celebrated £5 piece, excited so much curiosity that the entrance of the quiet abode of its fortunate possessor was soon besieged with applicants anxious to obtain a sight of it. Bevises of ladies, young and old, tripped from their carriages, and crowding up the staircases, filled the little treasure room of the new proprietor, who, while glorying in the addition to his cabinet, soon became terrified at the kind of publicity into which he felt himself being dragged, and, had not other and newer attractions drawn off the tide of public curiosity in some other direction, he would, doubtless, in self-defence, have packed off his treasure to the first numismatic sale, to get rid of the nuisance which its possession seemed likely to entail. This piece has, on the obverse, the portrait of the King, rather "wiry" in execution, but an excellent likeness. On the reverse are the royal arms, on a very highly raised oval shield, with the motto, so singularly inappropriate on the coinage of Charles, FLORENT CONCORDIA REGNA. Rawlins appears still to have followed his calling as an engraver after the fall of the unfortunate King, though without any official appointment; and he lived to see the expulsion of another Stuart from the throne of England, as we find him engraving tokens for the Mayor of Oxford as late as 1692; and his initial, "R" is found on the farthing tokens of Oxford and Gloucester."

The "New England halfpenny (1694)" seems to be the "New England Elephant Piece", a specimen of which, thought to be unique, was purchased in the Mickley sale by Mr. Appleton for \$235. We do not recognize the "American halfpennies, 1776". As the present owner has so many duplicates, he can certainly spare a few for our market, where we are sure that they would attract attention and, by their value, more than reimburse him.

The Rev. Mr. Struthers, of Prestonpans, was recently fortunate in bringing to light a large and valuable assortment of old Scottish coins that have lain buried beneath the earth for the last three centuries. It seems that a few fisher girls, while passing along the highway a little to the east of Bankton House (Colonel Gardiner's old mansion), picked up from the margin of an unenclosed field a number of what they thought pieces of brass or iron, which, however, on inspection turned out to be old coins of the Stuarts—among others a gold noble of the reign of the unfortunate Mary. Mr. Struthers was not long in learning the fact, and, going to the place where the coin had been found, made a careful examination of the ground. The field had been plowed deeper than usual this year, and he was not long in discovering a large number of coins, that appeared to have been deposited for safety. They were all in a heap, as if they had been originally contained in a bag, which, of course, had mouldered away in lapse of years. There were 114 coins altogether, extending from the reign of James III. to that of Mary, one of the latter, a silver piece, which bore the date of 1558, being in beautiful preservation and as perfect in stamping as the day it came out of the Scotch Mint. The gold noble referred to above was the only one of that metal, all the others being silver—in some cases greatly alloyed. One of the most interesting coins of the series is a silver piece of Mary's reign, struck in commemoration of her marriage with the Dauphin of France. It bears the date 1558, and in addition to the monogram "F. M." with the heraldic emblems of France and Scotland, contains the following Latin legend on the reverse:—"Jam non sunt duo sed una caro"—"They are no longer twain but one flesh." There can be but little doubt that the deposit was made in the reign of

Mary; and as her surrender to the Confederate Lords at Carberry Hill took place in the immediate neighborhood, it is no stretch of imagination, but a very reasonable conjecture, to connect the two things together, and to believe that one or other of the faint-hearted adherents of the queen, seeing that her cause was going down, had concealed the treasure under ground till better times should come.—*N. Y. Herald, Sept. 18, '69.*

### A NEW JERSEY CENT.

BY E. MARIS, M. D.

The generous forbearance of my numismatic friends having enabled me to become the possessor of the remarkable New Jersey Cent disposed of in the late Thorn sale in this city, it seems almost a duty to furnish them with some account of it. As far as my Philadelphia friends are aware, one of this variety has never before been offered at public auction, nor has an account of it been published in any periodical or scientific work.

Now let the collector select from his cabinet of Colonials all the New Jerseys struck upon a large planchet. From amongst these let him choose that particular specimen in which, on the reverse, there are unusually blunt horns to the shield, which has a projection on the left side just below the horn and extending toward PLU of the legend. A smaller imperfection of like character will be found attached to its upper part, also on the left hand side. In very many specimens too, there are traces of a crack in the die running from P to the milling. He will find on either hand, at the bottom of the shield, the sprigs in three sections, as on several others of the 87s as well as on the 88s. He has now before him the exact reverse of the coin under consideration: undoubtedly they were both produced from the same die. On turning it over, he will find a large plow with elevated beam and sharp share, below these the date 1787. The NOVA CÆSAREA will be seen in large letters, the diphthong out of its proper position. He will not fail to observe the three sprigs under the horse-head. Thus far everything corresponds exactly between his piece and my own. One mind seems to have planned, one hand to have executed the dies that produced each of them. But now we arrive at a remarkable difference. Instead of the head of the genderless beast before him, afflicted with *poll-evil* and affrighted, we may suppose, at a reflection of his own ungainliness, let him imagine the head of a noble Arabian steed. Let him imagine the animal inspired, not with the selfishness of his distinguished Darian predecessor, but with a foresight of that illustrious empire, which was to surpass any of Persian, of Macedonian, of Roman, or of Corsican dreams; an integral part of which, with agricultural implements associated, his portrait was to typify. With head erect, dilated eye, the right ear thrown forward, the delicate top-knot elevated, he expresses his emotion with a neigh. His mane is arranged in ten handsome plaits, seven of them gracefully flowing over his neck on the side next the observer, who, struck with his artistic beauty, naturally queries why he was rejected and his unworthy opponent chosen to be the pocket companion of New Jersey's sons and daughters. Perhaps the correct answer will be that the artist was informed that he had made an unjustifiable mistake. For while *the horse-head is turned toward the left, the plow is toward the right!*

## TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

### BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

September 2, 1869.—The regular monthly meeting of the society was held this day at the Library of the Horticultural Society according to adjournment.

The President, Mr. Colburn, read a letter from the Secretary, Mr. W. S. Appleton, dated at Yokohama, Japan, July 14, 1869, of which the following is an extract:

"In Manila I obtained the new Spanish set struck in the island. I bought a very large number of Chinese coins at Canton and Shanghai, and several books on them in Chinese. There exists a whole library of works on Numismatics in that language. I bought a number of Japanese coins at

Ozaca, and at Nagasaki was fortunate enough to obtain the gold obang, as large, I think, as any in America, but still of the second size here. I have a Japanese book with a plate of a larger one, and I have also seen one specimen of it. I found also at Ozaca a book in Japanese on foreign coins printed many years ago, which is particularly curious and interesting for having a plate of the Vernon medal and the Rhode Island medal. All these things I hope soon to be able to show you."

Mr. J. B. Rhodes showed a five-franc piece that had been cut into small fragments, which were used as currency in Madagascar.

SAMUEL A. GREEN

*Acting Secretary.*

#### FRENCH NUMISMATICS.

The official statistics of newspapers and journals published in France give *nineteen* as the number of those devoted to *numismatics* and *archæology*. A list of their titles, with the names of the publishers and the subscription prices, would be valuable as matter of reference to some readers of our journal. Can anybody give them?

I. F. W.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### CENTS OF 1793.

CINCINNATI, May 18th, 1869.

DEAR SIR:—The receipt for subscription was duly received. You ask me what I think of the April number. I am very much pleased with the photographic plate containing the varieties of the 1793 cents. I think your plan of photographing is the best thing that has been suggested, and will be of service to both dealers and collectors. The plate represents the coin itself, and the description accompanying the plate of each piece will afford all the aid that any one will need to determine varieties of the '93s. Now, if you can get the dealers to adopt your plate and descriptions as a means of reference when making out catalogues it will be something gained.

The readers of the JOURNAL must compliment Mr. Crosby for the brief and faithful manner in which he performed the part assigned to him of describing the various pieces illustrated on the plate; and, as far as I have been able from comparison to judge, his descriptions are minute, accurate, and complete.

You say you fear you did not do me justice in regard to my '93s, as you had mislaid the rubbings. It does not matter about that, as my pieces will answer for themselves when seen and examined.

You ask what piece as per the plate are my fine ones; I answer: Nos. 2, 3, and 7.\* My "Ameri" is very fine, but your No. 1 is probably a shade better. My No. 2 is the most completely uncirculated '93 I ever saw. Nos. 3 and 7 are as fine as those on the plate. The beauty of my pieces, aside from their preservation, is their color. They are all of light color, neither piece ever having been cleaned or doctored in any way, but all having their natural surface.

You request me to send you the weights of my '93s. Our residence has been twice entered by burglars within a month; I fear they were after my coins, so I took the *bint* and put them in a secure place; and for that reason I cannot comply with your request at present.

My silver "Copperheads" are with the rest of my valuable pieces; and I cannot say what I can do for you in the way of exchange at this time.

Respectfully,

THOS. CLENEAY.

To J. N. T. LEVICK, Esq., New York.

Mr. Edward Worthington, of this place, has a '93 that he tells me differs from all on the plate. I advised him to send it on to you, which he promised me he would do. It was bought by friend Cogan some three or four years since from a sale in New York for Mr. Worthington. T. C.

\* I am not altogether satisfied whether I am right about my No. 7, as I have not my pieces to compare with the plate.